Practitioner's Docket No.: 788 116 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Masaaki HAMADA

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY AND CONNECTING DEVICE FOR

STEERING WHEEL

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 15, 2003 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL 989118135 US.

Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicant wishes to amend the subject application as follows:

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 2 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet pursuant to 37 CFR 1.72.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including new Abstract is attached following page 3 of this paper.